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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/771,557	01/30/2001	Yasuo Nomura	202489US6	9407
22850	7590	04/06/2006	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			VENT, JAMIE J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2621	

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/771,557

Applicant(s)

NOMURA ET AL.

Examiner

Jamie Vent

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on March 14, 2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

TTQ
4/3/06

1-11
Claims ~~1, 2, 4-6~~ are rejected under 35 U.S.C. ~~102(a)~~^{103(a)} as being unpatentable by Hashizume et al (US 2003/0142955) in view of Seo (US 6,798,980).

[claims 1, 5, and 6]

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In regard to Claims 1, 5, and 6 Hashizume et al discloses an information processing apparatus and method capable of copying image information recorded on a first recording medium onto a second recording medium, comprising:

- display control means for controlling displaying of a copying operation window which includes a first icon corresponding to the first recording medium, an image information icon corresponding to the image information recorded on the first recording medium and a second icon corresponding to the second recording medium (Figure 15 shows the display control means for displaying the various operations occurring in the system. The figure shows various recording mediums (recording medium 210, control computer 203, log image file unit 211 and 214 as further described in paragraphs 0048-0053);
- moving means for selecting and moving one of the at least one image information icons on the copying operation window (Figure 1 shows the operation of selecting and moving one of the image information in window copying or editing of the scene as further explained in Paragraph 0077-0079);
- determining means for determining of the moving means moves the one of the at least one image information icon to the second icon (Paragraph 0078-0080 describes the determining of moving icons and furthermore can be seen the determining of what icons are moved are controlled by the control computer 203 as seen in Figure 15);

- means for requesting a user input based on a result of the determining means (Paragraphs 0077-0080 describes the requesting of a user to determine the input result);
- first setting means for setting whether or not a data format of the image moving means for selecting and information determined as an object of copying by moving means should be converted based on the user input (Figure 15 shows the control computer set the data format as further described in Paragraph 0009, 0018, and 0048-0049);
- readout means for reading out the image information corresponding to the one of the at least one image information icon selected by said moving means from the first recording medium (Figure 16 step 1008 reads out image information corresponded to the selected video image);
- writing means for writing the image information read out by said readout means or the image information converted by said conversion means onto second recording medium based on the setting of said first setting means (Figure 16 step 1010 write the image information that is read out of the system); however fails to disclose conversion means for converting the data format of the image information read out by said readout means based on the setting of said first setting means.

Seo discloses an apparatus wherein the audio/video data is converted for storage of information as seen in Figure 1. Furthermore, as described in Column 3 lines 35+ the converter is used to allow for proper storage and displaying of the data as it is being

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processed. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the information process apparatus as disclosed by Hashizume et al and further incorporate a conversion means for converting data format, as disclosed by Seo.

[claim 2]

In regard to Claim 2, Hashizume et al discloses an information processing wherein the first recording medium is built in said information processing apparatus, and the second recording medium is an external storage medium which can be removably connected to said information processing apparatus (Figure 15 displays various recording medium furthermore as described in Paragraph 0007 the recording mediums that are present can be removable (i.e. magnetic disk)).

[claims 3, 7,8,9,10,11]

In regard to Claim 3, 7,8,9,10,11, Hashizume et al discloses an information processing apparatus; however, fails to disclose that the conversion means converts the data format of the image information from that of the MPEG 2 system to that of the MPEG 1 system or MPEG 1 system to MPEG 2 system. Seo describes in Column 3 Lines 35+ the conversion of MPEG 2 to an MPEG 1 system and thereby provides a method for down converting the MPEG standard. This process is done to provide backward compatibility in order to provide output for older MPEG systems in the form of MPEG 1. Furthermore, it is well known in the art to convert MPEG 1 to an MPEG 2 system to upgrade the current data of the system. Both types of conversion provide compatibility within the system that has two standards present. Therefore, it would have been

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obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the information processing apparatus, as disclosed by Hashizume et al, and further incorporate a conversion of MPEG in the system to allow for greater use through various systems, as disclosed by Seo.

[claim 4]

In regard to Claim 4, Hashizume et al discloses an information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising second setting means for setting whether or not the image information of an original determined as the object of copying should be deleted, and deletion means operable in response to a result of the setting of said second setting means for either deleting or placing into a disabled state the image information of the original of the object of copying recorded on the first recording medium after the processing of said writing means is completed (Figure 16 shows that once the information is read out that the video signal is overwritten to record additional data and thereby deleting the current recorded data).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Aotake (US 6,411,771).

Contact Information

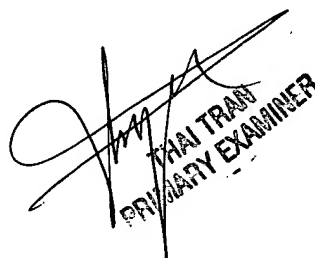
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamie Vent whose telephone number is 571-272-7384. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. Effective July 15, 2005, the Central Fax Number will change to 571-273-8300. Faxes sent to the old number (703-872-9306) will be routed to the new number until September 15, 2005.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jamie Vent
03/28/06



THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER